GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2355
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
E-Auctioning of FM Radio Channels
Udhayakumar Shri M.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated the process for e-auctioning 266 FM radio channel in 92 cities including strategically important areas like border towns of Jammu & Kashmir and the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has invited applications with a deadline for August 1, 2016 and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the much anticipated move is expected to bring radio services to small towns and cities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the result achieved thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING,
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) to (e). Under batch-II of FM Phase-III, the Government has initiated the process for e-auctioning of 266 FM radio channels in 92 cities by issuing a Notice Inviting Applications on 20.06.2016, and after completion of due procedure, started the auction process on 26.10.2016. The last date for submission of applications was 01.08.2016 which was revised to 08.08.2016 vide amendment no. 1 dated July 26, 2016 (Annexure-I). The auction for batch-II is currently in progress.

FM Phase-III Policy aims to expand FM Radio broadcasting to uncovered small towns/cities having population above 1 lakh and 11 border area towns of Jammu & Kashmir and North East States having population less than 1 lakh.